

## THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

GOV. HEYWARD ADVOCATES  
COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

A General Review of Financial Condition of the State—Would Change Dispensary Law.

By W. H. McCaw.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 10.—The features of Governor Heyward's message, which was read to the legislature today, are his recommendations regarding financial conditions of the state, his endorsement of compulsory education and his request for decided changes in the dispensary law. There is a quiet dignity pervading the message throughout, which is characteristic of the man; the document's strength lies in its simplicity and natural sincerity.

Touching the financial condition the message directs attention to the fact that since 1900 the expenditures have steadily exceeded the revenue. In 1900 \$10,015.42 in 1902 by \$13,384.23, in 1902 by \$16,136.23. In the past year the total excess of expenditures over revenue was \$365,592.21. The amount borrowed has been annually increasing until the past year the state treasurer found it necessary to borrow \$500,000. The revenue for 1905 is estimated at \$1,180,000—\$1,050,000 from a 5 mill levy, \$30,000 from the new license tax law and \$50,000 from insurance license fees from the secretary of state's office.

"It is clearly manifest that our revenue must be increased," says the message, "and as I have said, this can be done in one of three ways. One of these propositions—a license tax—has already been adopted, but as has been shown this does not meet the requirements of the situation. The other two alternatives remain: to increase the property assessment, or to raise the tax levy.

You are aware of the fact that an assessment of all property will be made in 1906; therefore if the assessment is to be increased steps should be taken looking to that end. Should nothing be accomplished at this session to increase the property assessment, it only remains for you to increase the tax levy, which should and must be done in order that the dignity and integrity of the state shall be maintained.

The message recommended that a penalty of 10 per cent. be attached for non-payment of taxes after the 1st of January, and that 60 days only be allowed in which to pay with penalty.

It is recommended that the county auditors be divorced from politics and that these places be filled by the governor and the senate, that a law be passed prohibiting any party from placing this office in a primary.

Attention is directed to the revenue bond script decision of the federal supreme court on the 19th of last December, whereby \$1,800,000 of this script issued in March, 1872, is declared void. "Had the decision been the other way the state would have had to pay this \$1,800,000."

In the matter of schools and colleges the recommendation of Superintendent Martin that a certain per cent. of the school funds be set aside for the erection of buildings is endorsed, as is the South Carolina trustees request for an additional appropriation of \$10,000 to place that institution on a university basis.

"In this connection I believe it would be an excellent plan to establish at Clemson from the funds of the college scholarships in the textile school for the benefit of young men from the cotton mills who seek technical training in this department."

On account of the attention which the matter will likely receive at this session of the legislature the full text of the message with regard to compulsory education is given:

"The people of the state have, for some years past, shown an increasing disposition to tax themselves for the support of their educational institutions. Especially is this true where our common schools are concerned. By this willingness is shown a growing realization of the fact that a state can do nothing better for the protection of its highest and truest interests than by educating its children. Ignorance has ever been, not only a serious incubus to any people, but a menace to its very civilization. This is truer today than it has ever been, and the question forces itself upon our consideration, whether or not we can afford to allow any number of our children to grow up in ignorance. As near as can be estimated from United States census figures and from the reports of the superintendents of education, there are today about 25,000 white children in South Carolina between the ages of 6 and 12 years who do not attend school, though schools are easily accessible to most of these children. The question, then, and a vital one it is, presents itself to us; can we, for the sake of not only the state, but for the sake of the children themselves, longer allow this deplorable condition to continue?"

"More than thirty states have adopted compulsory education and we should now seriously consider whether we can longer afford to postpone taking such a step. Have our common school facilities reached such a point as will warrant this action? I believe they have, provided that the proposed law be not too burdensome in its practical operation. By this I mean that children should not be compelled to attend schools so far from their homes that attendance would be a hardship, nor should the age limit for compulsory education be too drastic. This would cause the law to become unpopular and thus fail to accomplish the purpose for which it was intended.

"I have given this matter much careful thought and I am convinced that a conservative beginning should be made at once. Later on, as our school conditions advance and the law grows in popularity and its necessity is more fully realized, needed improvements can be adopted.

"I recommend that you adopt a compulsory education law, making it obligatory for all children between the ages of 6 and 12 years to attend school for a certain number of months during each year. The distance from the school house to which this law should apply is a matter for your wise consideration. But gentlemen, a school house should be within the reach of every child in South Carolina. The passage of such a law as I most earnestly urge upon your attention would, I feel sure, be of material benefit from every standpoint. The duty to train and educate our children; to prepare them for lives of influence and usefulness, should be as binding upon the state as it is upon the parents, and is, beyond all question, an obligation we can no longer afford to evade or postpone."

The message endorses the recommendation of Adjutant General Frost and Lieutenant General Faller for either an increased appropriation for the militia or a reduction in the militia to such an extent as will allow its efficiency to be brought up to the requirement of the Dick law, the appropriation under which the state came near losing on account of the militia's inefficiency.

What the message has to say with regard to the dispensary law is of vital importance:

Last year I purposely refrained from making any recommendations in reference to the dispensary. My reason for this was that I had not then had sufficient time to familiarize myself with the practical workings of the system. I have since had greater opportunity to study one of the more important details regarding the management of this institution, and for this reason I beg to submit for your consideration, changes which I am constrained to think will be improvements.

To properly regulate and control the sale of liquor has been a question most difficult of solution. Theories upon this subject, whenever and wherever tested, always become difficult problems when their practical enforcement as laws, or regulations, are attempted. No liquor law has ever yet been devised, which, in its general operation, has given entire satisfaction. South Carolina is the first and only state that has attempted to solve this problem under such state control as is included in our present dispensary law. In spite of the fact that this law has many strong points which commend it, most notably among them being, in my opinion, the fact that it has decreased drunkenness, it is also true that, like other laws, it has its imperfections. I am convinced that if this system can be properly regulated, it will be one of the best solutions of the liquor question. If not properly managed and controlled, its usefulness will be at an end. The recommendations which I shall make will be submitted with a view solely to improve the system, and to place all available legal restraints around the sale and use of liquors.

The purpose of the dispensary should be, not to increase, but to curtail and control, the sale of liquor, and this purpose should always be kept in view. As a business institution, it should be placed as far as possible above criticism, and its restrictive regulations should be rigidly enforced. The management of the dispensary has always been the subject of more or less criticism. During the past few months this criticism has been made frequently and with the greatest freedom. It is necessary that the system should be made as business-like as possible, and to this important end I shall principally direct my recommendations.

County Boards.

I respectfully recommend that the various county boards of control should be appointed by the state board of directors. Two members of this board to be appointed upon the recommendations of the legislative delegations, the other member upon the nomination of the mayor of the county seat. It should be the duty of these county boards to indorse the orders filed with the state commissioner, by county dispensers, for such supplies as may be needed for their respective dispensaries, naming brands and amounts required. This board should elect the various dispensers, but these dispensers should be subject to removal by the state board of directors for cause.

State Commissioner.

"The state commissioner should, in my judgment, be the officer whose duty it should be to purchase all sup-

plies for the dispensary. He should be required to make contracts, not for any specified amount of liquor, but for such supplies as may be actually required, such requirements to be determined by the commissioner, based, as far as possible, upon orders received by him from dispensers, approved by the county boards, and filed with him thirty days before the advertisement for bids by that officer.

"Each contract made by the commissioner should require the firm contracted with to guarantee the sale of such goods as may be ordered, and shipped to the state dispensary, said guarantee to be entered as a part of the bond. All advertisements for bulk goods should be placed strictly and absolutely upon a competitive basis, by letting it be distinctly understood that the lowest responsible bidder shall be awarded the contract. It should further be the duty of the commissioner to make, each year, quarterly reports to the state board of directors, showing the amounts contracted for the previous quarter, including the brands and prices, which report the state board of directors shall have published in at least two daily newspapers of the state.

State Board of Directors.

"The board should be required to meet each week at their office in the state dispensary, to remain in session as long as may be necessary for the transaction of their business. The general supervision and management of all county dispensaries should be in their charge, and they should be specifically charged with the duty of seeing that all restrictions governing the various dispensaries should be strictly enforced. These are responsible and arduous duties, for which the members of this board should receive a salary of not less than \$1,500 per annum, each, and should be required to file a bond of not less than \$10,000.

"I further recommend that the law as to the location of county dispensaries be amended to restrict them to such incorporated towns and cities as, in the opinion of the county board of control, furnish adequate police protection to the public against disturbances of the peace.

"Should these recommendations be adopted I am constrained to believe that they will accomplish two purposes, namely: They will place the dispensary upon a more business-like basis and will also provide the machinery by which the legal restrictions of the system will be properly enforced.

The reports of the state board of directors will be submitted for your consideration, showing the business transacted during the past fiscal year, and I respectfully refer you, for all details, to these reports.

Removal of Dispensaries.

"At your last session there was enacted a law giving to counties which desire prohibition the right by a majority vote to close their dispensaries, and upon the taxable property of all counties so voting it was required that there be levied an annual tax of one-half mill, this tax to be expended by the governor in enforcing the law, should the local authorities fail to do so. Objection has been made to this law on account of the tax imposed, it being contended that it is in the nature of a penalty, its effect being to deter the people from voting for the removal of dispensaries.

"I do not agree with this view. If prohibition be substituted for the dispensary law, then prohibition should be enforced, and when this cannot be done through the sentiment of the people, expense must certainly be incurred. The counties now pay for the enforcement of each and every law, and it is not fair to expect counties which maintain the dispensary to take the profits accruing to the general school fund to defray the expenses of the enforcement of the law in a county which pays nothing. Besides this, the tax is by no means excessive; it can be expended only when necessity requires, and then solely in an effort to accomplish the purpose for which the people voted. That it will not deter them from voting for what they desire, was certainly demonstrated recently in the only election which has been held under the provisions of the law. Although it is required that the tax be paid annually, it need practically be paid only once, for if the local authorities do their duty in enforcing prohibition—which they will do whenever the people demand it—the money will be refunded to the county, and the ordinary county tax can be thus reduced by one-half of one mill. This tax feature of the law, then, it appears to me, instead of being regarded as a penalty, preventing the counties from obtaining what they desire, should rather be viewed as a guarantee that they shall have, as far as possible, just what they do desire."

The message complains of the lack of enforcement of the dispensary law in Charleston, on account of the condition of public sentiment there and the peculiar difficulties surrounding the constables on account of the city's large water front.

To meet and check the growing evil of the "social club" tigers, "which pretend to operate under charters granted by the secretary of state but in reality are only places for the promiscuous illegal sale of liquor," it recommended that the secretary of state be given authority to refuse such a charter on an affidavit from the chief state constable that he has reason to believe that the applicants intend to violate the dispensary law; in case the officers or employees of such a club violate the law it is asked that the secretary of state be required to revoke such a charter.

With regard to lawlessness it recommended that sheriffs who allow prisoners to be taken from their custody and lynched should be inflicted with a penalty which will include their removal from office. In this connection a special appropriation for the suppression of lynching is asked, but the growing tendency to ask for troops in suppressing lynchings is deprecated.

The message renews the recommendation of last year that two additional judicial circuits be established to relieve the congested conditions of the dockets throughout the state and do away with special terms of court.

In connection with his comments on the state of the penitentiary the governor takes occasion to endorse the movement of the South Carolina confederation of Women's clubs for the establishment of an industrial school and reformatory for white boys.

Regarding the state board of health this recommendation is made:

"I believe that more efficient service could be rendered were the board empowered to elect a physician, as an executive secretary, giving this officer such a salary as would enable him to devote his entire time to matters concerning the public health. If no larger appropriation can be secured rather than have this prevent the election of such an officer, I believe it would be wise to have set apart from the present appropriation such an amount as would be necessary for this purpose.

"The board recommends that the quarantine stations in the state be transferred to the United States Public Health and Marine Hospital service, and, for many reasons, in this recommendation I concur."

Concerning biennial sessions the message asks that the vote of last summer be ratified and that at this session such action be taken "as may be necessary to adjust and conform other parts of our constitution and statutory law to the change wrought by the enactment providing for biennial sessions."

In this connection it is recommended that "for many reasons it would be wiser and better to have all of your state officers elected for a term of four years, not allowing them to succeed themselves."

It is recommended that the neglected fish and oyster interests be looked after by a commission which should be appointed at this session.

The message concludes as follows:

"I rejoice to add that progress and prosperity continue to bless us, with the uplifting influences that come from the earnest labors of a united people. The welfare of South Carolina is largely in your keeping, and much hope for her future will depend upon the results of your deliberations. There was once a temple erected with no sounds of the tools of labor, with no confusion of haste and disorder, without noise and strife. Imbued with this spirit, with united zeal and devotion may you quit yourselves like men; may they contribute to the reign of law and order, to the peace and happiness of our people, and to the dignity and honor of our state."

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES.

JUNTER HAS TEMPORARY CHAIRMEN OF BOTH HOUSES.

The Proceedings Today Without Special Interest—M. L. Smith Re-elected Speaker of the House.

Columbia, an. 10.—There is nothing striking so far in the meeting of the new legislature, both branches of which convened at noon.

At 1 o'clock both houses are engaged in the very elevating and entertaining ceremony of swearing in new members which takes much time.

The house organized with Altamont Moses as temporary chairman, who has done nothing so far but swear in new members. It is doubtful whether the governor's message will be reached today in the lower house.

The senate chose R. I. Manning, of Sumter, as temporary chairman. R. R. Hemphill was re-elected clerk; J. F. Schumpert succeeds himself as sergeant at arms and W. H. Stewart as reading clerk. E. S. Dingle, of Charleston, was reappointed assistant clerk; Rev. W. I. Herbert, of the Methodist church, was reelected chaplain of the senate. He was opposed by Rev. W. J. Snyder and Rev. N. A. Hamrick.

M. L. Smith of Kershaw, was re-elected speaker of the house without opposition.

The officers of the house were also re-elected without opposition as follows: T. C. Hamer, of Marlboro, clerk; J. S. Wilson, of Lancaster, sergeant at arms; J. S. Withers, of Chester, reading clerk; Rev. R. N. Platt, Baptist church of Columbia, chaplain. The governor was then informed that the house was fully organized. The members are now drawing lots for seats.

W. H. M.

## A. G. L. and C. N. &amp; L. R. R. Companies Sale—Continued.

21	1 bbl poles,	No mark,	Columbia.
22	1 farming mill,	No mark,	Columbia.
22	1 socky,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	1 bbl safe 1 mt can,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	2 bbl p feet 1 old wheel,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	3 bbl p matter 1 w pot,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	1 sk sandim, 1 pr pants,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	1 bbl curtain paper,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	20 boxes soda, 1 s ron,	J L B,	Columbia.
23	12 s stoves, 1 bx a matr,	No mark,	Columbia.
28	1 ex s seed, 1 bx old elth,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	2 bx soap, 1 bx old elth,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	3 bx polish,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	1 bbl extract, 1 bx soap,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	2 bx g seed, 2 bx glass,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	5 bx soap, 1 ex p nute,	No mark,	Columbia.
23	1 bx extracts,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	2 s patts,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 bbl crockery,	S P Jones,	Columbia.
24	10 ex rice,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 pkg findng,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 bx marble chips,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 bx sample books,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 ex seed,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	13 bl p pants,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 bl slide,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 plow bottom,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	4 bbl bed ends,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	6 bbl bed rails,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	2 pkg charts,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 pkg maps,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 trunk books,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 ort deak,	No mark,	Columbia.
24	1 stove,	No mark,	Columbia.

## Cabbage Plants and Sea Island Cotton Seed.

Cabbage Plants for sale and now ready for delivery. "Early Jersey Wakefield" and "Charleston Large Type Wakefield" two earliest sharphead varieties and head in rotation as named. "Succession," "Augusta Truck" and "Short Stem Flat Dutch," the best flathead varieties and head in rotation as named. Prices: Single thousand, \$1.50; 5,000 and over \$1.25 per 1,000; 10,000 and over \$1 per 1,000. Terms: Cash with order; or, plants sent C. O. D., purchaser paying return charges on money. Our plant beds occupy 35 acres on South Carolina sea coast, and we understand growing them in the open air; tough and hardy; they will stand severe cold without injury. Plants crated for shipment weigh 20 lbs. per 1,000 and we have special low rates for prompt transportation by Southern Express Co. I know of other plants you can buy cheaper than mine. I sell good plants. No cheap "cut rate" plants shipped from my farm. I guarantee those that I ship to be true to type and name, and grown from high grade seeds purchased from two of the most reliable seed houses in the United States. I will refund purchase price to any dissatisfied customer at end of season.

OUR COTTON SEED. List of our Long Staple variety of Sea Island Cotton sold this year in Charleston on Dec. 2 at 22c per pound. Seed \$1.25 per bu.; lots of 10 bu. and over \$1 per bushel.

My specialty: Prompt Shipment, True Varieties, and Satisfied Customers. I have been in the plant business for thirty-five years.

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